

REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested for claims 13-24.

Claims 16-17 and 19-24 have been withdrawn as being drawn to a non-elected species.

The drawings were objected to on the grounds that it is not clear which parts are solid and which parts are voids and lack shading, and because they contain copier marks. It is submitted that the original drawings comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.81-1.84 and illustrate the features of the invention as claimed. It is not alleged that the quality of the drawings is insufficient to permit examination or publication. It is submitted that it is apparent which structures are solid and which are voids, particularly upon viewing the drawings in conjunction with reading of the specification. Shading is not required for drawings in utility applications. Regardless, clean replacement drawing sheets are attached and are submitted to comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.81-1.85.

The feature "wherein all screening links having projecting parts that extend only in one direction" is shown in the original application in, e.g., FIG. 2 (projecting parts 20 extending in one direction from the group of links 14) but has been amended to clarify that "each group of screening links being arranged on two of the carrying rods . . . and extending in a direction of the group between the two carrying rods, the screening links each having a projecting part, and . . . all the screening links in each group of screening links have projecting parts on only one end of the screening links and extending in the group direction beyond only one of the two carrying rods on which the group of screening links is arranged". Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is cordially urged.

Claims 13-15 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The claims have been amended to address the specific grounds for rejection noted in the Official Action, as well as to address other matters of form. Withdrawal of the rejection is cordially urged.

Claims 13-15 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,387,336 to *Bormet*. Claim 13 defines a screening grid for discharging solids from a liquid flow, the grid comprising a driveable screening strip that can be inserted into the liquid flow and comprising two lateral link chains, carrying rods extending between the link chains, and screening links, at least some of the screening links having hooks, the screening links being divided into groups of adjacent screening links, each group of screening links being arranged on two of the carrying rods independent of preceding and a subsequent group of screening links and extending in a direction of the group between the two carrying rods, the screening links each having a projecting part, and wherein all the screening links in each group of screening links have projecting parts on only one end of the screening links and extending in the group direction beyond only one of the two carrying rods on which the group of screening links is arranged and without overlapping with projecting parts of any adjacent group of screening links.

*Bormet* differs from the claimed invention in various ways. For example, *Bormet* discloses a screening rake with a group of screening links 13 mounted on two rods, e.g., 12', 12', however, the links have projecting parts (not numbered) on both ends of the links. Further, the projecting parts extend in a direction of the group of links 13 beyond both of the two carrying rods 12', 12'. Further still, the projecting parts overlap projecting parts of adjacent groups of screening links 13.

In view of the differences between claim 13 and *Bormet*, it is respectfully submitted that claim 13 and the claims dependent therefrom are not anticipated by *Bormet*. Withdrawal of the rejection is cordially urged.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Allowance is cordially urged.

To the extent that any extensions of time are necessary in connection with this application it is requested that there be a standing petition for extension of time and that any additional fees that are required, or refunds due, in connection with this or any other paper filed in connection with this application be charged to Deposit Account 503015.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues, please contact the undersigned.

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Respectfully submitted,  
  
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